

1204

Fourth Crusade

Instigated by Pope INNOCENT III (originally planned for Holy Land) was diverted first to ZARA in Christian Hungary & then despite papal censures to Constantinople which was captured in 1204

1204

Fourth Crusade (Constantinople)

1204

The Crusaders plunder
Constantinople

1204

Normandy is reunited to
France

1204

ALEXIUS I weathered the
Byzantine Emperors ALEXIUS IV
and ISAAC II.

As a result the Crusaders
(4th Crusade) stormed the city,
sacked it; divided fabulous
spoils with the Venetians & set
up the Latin Kingdom of Constantinople.

The Venetian merchants (from Venice) used the 4th Crusade to crush Constantinople's power and increase their own.

The period of Venetian wealth & power lasted for almost 300 years until the voyages of Columbus and others opened up the new world.